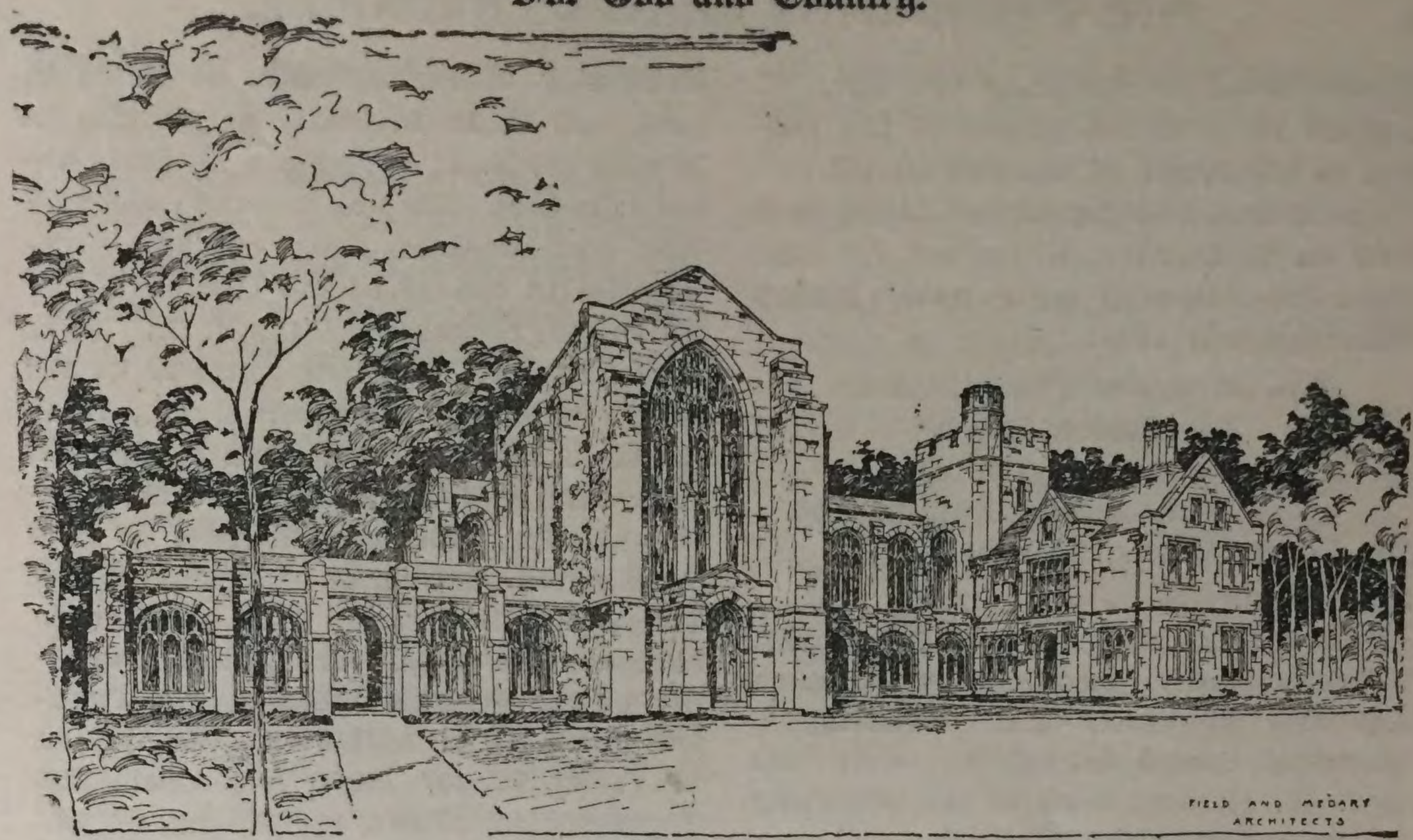
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory or Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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VOL. III. NOVEMBER 15, 1910 NO. 8

Organization of Washington Memorial Parish, Valley Forge.

On the 20th of October the congregation of the Washington Memorial Chapel met in the parish house and adopted the proposed charter for the new parish. The Rev. Mr. Burk presided at the meeting and Mr. Charles Wells Walker acted as secretary.

As soon as the charter was adopted the congregation proceeded to the election of Vestrymen, and the following were chosen to serve until Easter Monday, 1911: Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mr. Thomas H. Dobson, Gen. B. F. Fisher, Mr. Nathan Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summeril!, Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker, and Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

The tellers were Dr. Charles M. Burk and Mr. John Warriner.

The first meeting of the Vestry was held on the 28th of October, when Mr. Frank Quigg was elected Vestry's Warden and Treasurer; Mr. Charles Wells Walker, Rector's Warden, and Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Secretary. The Vestry having thus completed its organization unani-

mously voted to nominate the Rev. W. Herbert Burk to the Bishop of the Diocese as the rector of the new parish.

The second meeting of the Vestry was held on Wednesday, November 9, 1910, when the following letter from Bishop Whitaker was read:

The Diocese of Pennsylvania.
The Church House.
12th and Walnut Streets.
Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1910.

Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Secretary,

My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours of October 31, informing me in accordance with Canon XIV that the Vestry of the Washington Memorial Chapel desires to elect the Rev. W. Herbert Burk to the rectorship of the newly organized parish.

It gives me pleasure to say that I cordially approve the action which you contemplate. Mr. Burk is one of our very best men, worthy of the highest respect and confidence. He deserves great credit for the work he has done at All Saints', Norristown, and in connection with the mission, now grown to be a parish, at Valley Forge.

With all best wishes for him and your Vestry and your Congregation.

O. W. WHITAKER,
Bishop of Pennsylvania.

The Vestry, having heard with pleasure the Bishop's approval of the nominee for the first rector, unanimously voted to call the Rev. W. Herbert Burk to the rectorship at a salary of $1500 per year.

THE RECTOR-ELECT.

The following brief biography of the Rev. Mr. Burk, the Rector-elect, is taken from "Who's Who in Pennsylvania," 1908:

"W. Herbert Burk, clergyman; born in Philadelphia, April 23, 1867; son of Jesse Young Burk and Gertrude (Hele) Burk. He attended the Protestant Episcopal Academy, Philadelphia; University of Pennsylvania, and the Protestant Episcopal Divinity School; graduated from the University of Pennsylvania as B. A. in 1890, and B. D. in 1893. He married in Woodbury, N. J., September 25, 1894, Abbie J. Reeves. He was ordered deacon in 1893, and ordained priest in 1894; was minister in charge of the Church of the Ascension, Gloucester City, N. J., 1893; rector in 1894, assistant minister of St. John's Church, Norristown, Pa., 1894; priest in charge of All Saints' Chapel, 1897; rector of All Saints' Church, Norristown, Pa., 1898; also founder of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, Pa., and since 1903, minister in charge of the same. Mr. Burk is a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. He is author of 'Washington at Valley Forge,' 1905; 'Historical and Topographical Guide to Valley Forge,' 1906; 'Washington's Prayers,' 1907."

Mr. Burk was made Dean of the Convocation of Norristown, Sept. 29, 1910. He is also a member of the Executive Board of the Sunday School Association of the Diocese, the Board of Missions, and Commission on Church Work among the Blind. He is also a member of the Montgomery County Historical Society, an honorary member of the Gloucester County Historical Siciety, New Jersey, and a member of the City Club, of Philadelphia. Through his work in All Saints' Sunday School Mr. Burk has become known as an authority on religious education.

Mr. William E. Montague has added to his other gifts to the Museum two articles of great interest. The first is a deed for a slave. It is dated New Orleans, March 12, 1860. The sale was made by Antonio Bozonio to Martin Glasco. "The slave Louisa, aged about 60 years" was transferred by this paper from one owner to another, the price paid being $400.

The second article is one of the old toasters, made to revolve in front of the open fire.

The Advent Offering of the Diocese of Pennsyivania.

The Executive Board of the Diocese of Pennsylvania has decided to recommend to all Rectors and Superintendents that the offerings of their Sunday schools during Advent be devoted to the completion of the Washington Memorial Chapel. This recommendation is along the line of the wise policy of concentration of effort outlined by the Church Club, and ought to commend itself to those who have the disposition of these funds. In 1905 the Advent Offerings were given to the Chapel, and were used chiefly for the stone lining. This has resulted in the placing of the handsome memorials which are now such a feature not only of the Chapel, but of Valley Forge. If the Sunday schools give another generous offering this year there is little doubt but that the balance required for the completion of the nave will be given.

The following letter has been sent to all rectors and superintendents:

To the Rectors, Officers, Teachers and Scholars of the Sunday Schools of the Church in the Diocese of Pennsylvania:

Last year your Advent offerings were given for St. Augustine's Chapel, which is now completed and admirably equipped for its work. This year the Board has resolved to ask you to help complete the Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge. This is only partly built, but already contains many handsome memorials of the patriots of the Revolution.

Seven years ago when this work was undertaken it seemed as if we could hope for little except the erection of a beautiful memorial. Under God's blessing the congregation now numbers about eighty communicants, and these are carrying on two Sunday schools. These earnest people are now organizing an independent parish, and will assume all the burden of its support. Therefore, your offerings at this time will not only help to complete a beautiful memorial, but will also encourage those who so bravely face the future in the hope of Divine support.

O. W. WHITAKER, Pesident.
ALEXANDER MACKAY-SMITH, Vice President.
ORLANDO CREASE, Vice President.
JOHN E. BAIRD, Vice President.
C. K. KLINK, Secretary.
H. L. DUHRING, Secretary.

I cordially endorse the foregoing appeal, and trust that every one connected with our Sunday schools will make a special effort to secure a larger Advent offering this year than we have ever made before.

O. W. WHITAKER,
Bishop of Pennsylvania.

The Register of the Massachusetts Society of the Sons of the American Revolution has been presented to the Library by Mr Herbert Wood Kimball, the Registrar of the Society. This volume is of special interest to those working for the honor of Valley Forge, because it contains a very full account of the dedication of the Massachusetts Bay, with all the addresses, a portrait of Mr. Edward Clarence Battis, President of the Society at the time of the dedication, and a picture of the Bay with the members of the Society, clergy and choirs. This last is made more valuable by the carefully prepared key to the group made by that devoted friend of this Washington Memorial, Mr. Arthur E. Pearson.

It is interesting to note the fact that the members of the Society were so impressed with what they saw of Valley Forge on this occasion that they went back to Massachusetts and so successfully labored for Valley Forge that the State Legislature appropriated $5000 for the erection of a monument in the Park to these men of Massachusetts.

Donations to Tea Room, two dollars, Mrs. F. Bean, Valley Forge.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Warden and Treasurer, Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Charles Wells Walker, Rector's Warden, Devon, Pa.
Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Secretary, Bridgeport, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mr. Thomas H Dobson, Gen. B. F. Fisher, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker, Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Treasurer of the Building Fund, Bridgeport, Pa.
Miss Mary Supplee Stephens, Organist.
Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.
Mr. John Warriner, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Calendar.

NOVEMBER.

20. Sunday next before Advent.
24. Thanksgiving Day. 10 a. m. Services, sermon and Holy Communion.
27. First Sunday in Advent.
30. St. Andrew.

DECEMBER.

4. Second Sunday in Advent.
7. 2.30 p. m. Washington Memorial Chapel Guild.
11. Third Sunday in Advent.
14. Ember Day.

Report of the Treasurer of Washington Memorial Chapel Guild for Year Ending Sept. 1, 1910.

MRS. NATHAN HUGHES, Treasurer.

Balance on deposit from 1909	$84 45
Dues for year Sept., '09 to Sept., 1910	53 25
Amount in Birthday Box	6 73
Interest on money deposited	1 97
Proceeds of rummage sales, $58.80, $79.50	138 30
Proceeds of luncheon, Oct., $73.80; May, $91.25	165 05
Incidentals, including donations toward tea room, working chapter and sales of provisions from different affairs	20 71
	$470 46

DISBURSEMENTS.

Transportation	$50 00
Current expenses, Mr. Quigg, treasurer	120 00
Extra expenses, for entertainment, etc.	106 80
Missions of Convocation	25 00
Contribution for the Memorial Day luncheon, Mr. Burk, treas..	25 00
Chronicle	67 15
	$393 95
Balance	$76 51
Amount received from tea room, April 16th to Sept. 1st	$226 34
Total amount (from all sources for the year)	$696 80

A special meeting of the Guild was held on Wednesday, November 16th, at Mrs. Charles W. Walker's. There were twelve members present. The Guild discussed plans for the Winter's work, for it was found that after setting aside the money for the memorial fund and paying a number of bills the treasury was in urgent need of replenishing. Committees were appointed by the President to work up a Rummage Sale and to complete the rag carpet. Several other plans were proposed and will be worked out in de-

tail later. The members took up the Winter's work with true Washingtonian vim and interest. It is hoped that the next meeting will be as large and even larger. It will be held at the chapel on Wednesday, December 7th.

Valley Forge Chapter's Continental Uniform.

Valley Forge Chapter, D. A. R., of which Mrs. Joseph Fornance is the Regent, has the honor of securing for the Valley Forge Museum of American History the first Continental uniform exhibited at Valley Forge. Uniforms of the soldiers of the Revolution are excessively rare, and most of them are in poor condition. The Valley Forge Chapter has been most fortunate in securing for its gift to the Museum relics of such value and importance. The suit consists of the coat, vest, buckskin breeches, and boot-tops of leather.

This uniform was exhibited in the famous Donderon collection, and was purchased at the sale by a New York dealer, who sold it to the Valley Forge Chapter.

The coat is of blue cloth with white facings. This is interesting as most persons have an idea that the Continental uniform was blue and buff. Mr Charles Knowles Bolton calls attention to the fact that buff was worn only by the troops of New York and New Jersey, whereas red facings were worn by the men of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia and white facings by those of New England. The regiments from North and South Carolina were to have blue coats "with buttonholes edged with white tape or lace." Blue seems to have been adopted as the official color of the uniform of the American soldier in the fall of 1779.

The uniform has been given a very prominent position in the Museum, and has aroused the greatest interest in the visitors. By its generous gift Valley Forge Chapter has won the gratitude of all interested in the development of the Museum.

History of the Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

LETTER VIII.

Norristown Herald and Free Press, July 24, 1750.

At the close of my last, we left Washington with his troops encamped on the Mathachen Hills, to which place he had retreated to recruit, as far as possibly remained in his power, the strength and spirits of his destitute and suffering army. After tarrying here a few days and receiving some reinforcements, he marched back again towards Philadelphia, to watch the movements of the enemy, and encamped on the heights of Barren Hill, in the township of Whitemarsh, and the Gulf Mills, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county; a portion being on both sides of the river Schuylkill. The British fleet were at this time trying to force a passage up the Delaware to the city of Philadelphia, which, after six weeks of fierce and determined opposition, they finally effected. While here, several small skirmishs took place, but no decisive battles were fought. And it was also while encamped here, that two important matters took place, which I shall now advert to. The first was the welcome news of the capture of General Burgoyne and his army by General Gates, in the State of New York. This news had a tendancy to raise the drooping spirits of the desponding army, and to then, though gloomy the prospect and trying the condition in which they were placed to hold on and persevere in the cause of freedom and independence, under their severe suffering and hardships. Previous to this news reaching them, many of them, who were persons of wealth and respectability, who had exchanged their comfortable homes, their happy firesides, and their

plentiful tables, for the toils, hardships and deprivations of a camp and the life of a soldier; and seeing for a time at least nothing but defeats and disasters attend them, were almost ready to throw down their arms and reluctantly give up the cause of freedom as hopeless, now felt a ray of hope. Animated by it, and like a drowning man grasping at straws to prolong his existence, so they seized on the news of that victory as a fresh stimulus, to excite them to contend for their freedom, looking forward through the dark and gloomy prospect of that day to a brighter and better day, and a fresh resolve to still hold on in sustaining the ground they had taken.

The other event alluded to was the discovery of a plan of the British army to surprise and capture the army under Washington, while stationed at these places. This plan was frustrated by the vigilance, sagacity and I may add, patriotism of a woman in the city of Philadelphia, named Lydia Darrach, a member of the Society of Friends, at whose house the British officers had a room in which they met to hold private consultations. On one occasion of this kind she overheard a plan of arrangement laid down, and the time agreed upon to make an attack upon the whole army and take them by surprise. This by a well concerted stratagem on her part, which shows how fertile the female mind often is in cases of emergency, and difficulties to be overcome, to devise the means necessary to carry them into effect, the information was communicated to Washington and their object defeated.

These two causes accelerated the removal of the Continental troops to Valley Forge. This first inspired them with hope, the second showed them the necessity of being further removed from the enemy, and better fortified in case of an attack. Having noticed the ingenuity of the female mind, and how fertile they sometimes are in carrying out any objects they have in view even under very disadvantageous circumstances. I may be excused if I deviate a little from my subject and locality to relate a circumstance of the kind, which was planned and executed by a female who some years afterwards removed to live within the limits of the lines of the encampment at Valley Forge, and on that account I give it a place here, though the object she had in view was in direct opposition to the interests of the colony. The facts I have heard her relate, and it is from that authority that I insert them, though the names will be omitted, as there is some of her descendants living in an adjoining county, who, if willing the account should be published, would be unwilling to see the names of the persons accompany it. The circumstances occurred soon after the British took possession of Philadelphia, and are as nearly as follows:

There lived at that time in York county, in this state, a man of wealth and influence, who took an active and decided part with the enemy. Owing to his known adherence and open avowal of his attachment to the royal cause, he was arrested by the Colonial authority, and confined in the prison at York, to await a trial for aiding and abetting the enemy. On account of his wealth and standing, he was, though confined to the house, allowed to have full liberty of the yard, and to have rooms furnished so that he could receive and entertain company who visited him. On a certain evening he had made an entertainment, to which he had invited the Sheriff and the principal inhabitants of the town, and, it was said, some members of Congress, who were in session at the place. A splendid supper was provided for them, and plenty of wines and other liquors to drink. While the company was engaged eating and drinking, his wife (the woman last alluded to) was on the outside of the wall, preparing to effect his escape by a plan very systematically arranged between them, and successfully carried into effect.

She had prepared a rope to be thrown

over the wall to him; she by holding the other end was to enable him to scale the wall. If he succeeded, two fleet horses were in readiness for them to mount and ride off with all the expedition they possibly could. The company being engaged as above mentioned, he suddenly complained of indisposition, asked the company to excuse him for a short time, and leaving his hat on the table to avoid suspicion, he walked into the yard. Reaching the place, he found the rope provided, too short. She immediately mounted her horse, which enabled her to reach the end of it, so that he thereby made his escape over the wall, where a hat and change of raiment were in readiness for him. They then set off at full speed to a point on the Susquehanna river, not on the main road, where arrangements had been made to cross over the river, leave their horses, and pursue their journey on others that were to be in readiness on the other side. He was soon missed, finding he had escaped, pursuit was soon commenced, but owing to her well arranged plans, they soon crossed over the river and continued their journey so expediously that on the morning of the following day they arrived at a house about three miles from Valley Forge, where, thirty-six years after, she ended a useful and exemplary life in a good old age.

They continued there during the day, and in the evening left the place to pursue their journey to join the British in Philadelphia, leaving the place so as to reach the city by daylight. As they drew near the city they found themselves closely pursued, when, to prevent being taken, they separated. He then rode into the river, swam his horse across and escaped to the British, where she having found means to cross the river, soon joined him.

Whether the Sheriff of York county was secretly in favor of the measure or not, is uncertain, and must always remain so. And whether the owner of the house, where they stopped during the day, was previously acquainted with the movement and disposed to favor it, have been a matter of conjecture among the people of the neighborhood, and different sentiments have been entertained concerning the subject; some exculpating him from any participation in the matter, while others have considered him censurable and disposed to favor the enemy. I had prepared some comments on the subject, but have concluded not to insert them in this work; merely stating that after the war his devotion to our free insitutions and tenacity, not withstanding his religious opinions, in exercising his right of suffrage during a long period of years, warrants me in uniting with the former opinion, and shall now dismiss the subject.

Having now completed the principal matters relative to the burning of the Valley Forge, and other subjects that transpired about that time, I shall in my next give some acount of the arrival of the troops in the vicinity of the place, from recollections of the relations that have been given me by those who were witnesses to the painful scene, principally from members of our own family whose lot it was to reside within the lines of the army during the whole period of its encampment at that place, suffering more than can be described, but which I leave to the imagination of the reader to conceive and contrast with our present happy situation of ease and enjoyment.

And before I conclude, I would just observe that in my next the acount will be generally confined to the arrival of the soldiers at my grandfather's, and their situation at the time. And whatever may be related respecting them, may be taken as applicable to other families in the neighborhood, as they all suffered alike during that disastrous time. To enter into particulars would exceed the object in view. I have therefore his family taken as a specimen, from being better acquainted with the matters that occurred there at the time.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

At a General Court Martial whereof Colo. Clark was president January 23d, 1778 Wm. McHurst of Capt.. Lees company of Artillery Tryed for deserting and stealing a horse from Genl. McIntosh acquitted of the charge of desertion but found guilty of the theft being a breach of Article 5th Section 18th of the articles of War and sentenced to receive 100 Lashes & have ½ his pay stopped Monthly til Genl. McIntosh is fully satisfyed. The court on account of the prisoners heretofore sustaining a good character as a soldier, recommend him to his Excellency's clemency respecting the corporal Punishment. The Commander in Chief remits the stripes, approves the Latter part of the Sentence and orders it to take place.

Head Quarters Valley Forge January 31st, 1778.
Major General for tomorrow DeKalb
Brigadier Virnum Field Officers Colo. Vose Major Hull Brigade Major Day.

Sevn subbs 8 Sergiants 8 Corporals & 64 Privates to parade tomorrow morning Privates to parade tomorrow morning nine o'clock prepared for the Weeks command——

Head Quarters Valley Forge February 1st, 1778·
Major General toMorrow Green Brigadier Huntington Field Officers Colo. Bradford, Major Talbot. Brigade Major Alden.

The Brigade Quartermasters are to call on the AQ. M. Genl at the Adjt. Generals Office to-morrow morning 10 o Clock for their proportion of 320 camp Kittles.

In Congress June 10th 1778 Resolved—That the Commissary Generals of Purchase & Issues and their Respective Deputies or other officers in their respective offices shall be subject to Military arrest & Tryd by order of the Commander in chief or any Genl. officer commanding a division of the army post or detachment where such Neglect of duty or offence may happen. and the respective assistants to the Commissary Genl. of Purchase and Isues shall for the same cases be liable to military arrest as Commissioned Officer in the army by any General officer or any officer commanding a detached post to which afsd. may be assigned—The General directs that due attention be paid to the foregoing Resolve.

The Court martial of which Colo. Clarke is president is dissolved.

Head Quarters Valley Forge 2nd of Febry. 1778
Major General for tomorrow Lord Starling Brigadr. Poor Field Officers Lt. Colo. Beanford Major Fennor Brigade Major Mervin.

A General Court Martial Whereof Colo. Wigglesworth is appointed President to sit tomorrow morning 9 oClock at the Bake house to Try all prisoners who shall be brought before them, a Capn. from each brigade will attend as members.

The broken and worn out axes are to be collected and delivered to the B. Q. Masters they are to deliver them to the Asst. Q. MG. at the Adjt. Genl. office who will give them new ones in exchange.

The latest addition to our Collection of Authors' Presentation Copies comes from Mrs. Thomas Hale Streets, who has presented her valuable work on the Walker family, "Lewis Walker || of Chester Valley || and his Descendants; || with some of the Families with whom || they are connected by || marriage. || 1686-1896. || "The present contains all the past." || Andre Chevrillon. || Collected, completed and published by || Priscilla Walker Streets, || Philadelphia || MDCCCXCVI."

This book is of the greatest value to the student of Valley Forge history, for it deals with the records of the men and women who occupied the farms on which the troops encamped on those close to the American line of defence.

From Mr. William Summers, the librarian of the Montgomery Historical Society, we have received twelve bullets collected by George Summers, a private in the 95th Regiment, Pa. Vols., during the Civil War, and ten military buttons, including two from the War of 1812.